# October 2020



## Fremont County Farm Service Agency:

508 North Broadway Ave Riverton, WY 82501

Phone: 307-856-7524 Fax: 855-415-3439

Hours: 8:00 am-4:30 pm

## Acting County Executive Director:

**Brian Harrell** 

#### **Program Technicians:**

Becky Walters Tracy Givens

#### Farm Loan Manager:

**Brian Harrell** 

#### Farm Loan Officer:

Mercedes Jaurequi

## Farm Loan Program

Technician:

Carol Zogata

#### **County Committee:**

Jim Hellyer Will O'Neal Stan Horton

### From Your Fremont County FSA Team

Hello Producers,

Well, we believe winter weather has found us. As we prepare to bundle up and keep a watchful eye on our families and livestock; we need to keep an eye on some deadlines with FSA.

**Livestock Forage Program (LFP)** – provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land. Deadline to apply is **January 30. 2021**.

**Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** – provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting. Deadline for 2021 coverage is **December 1, 2020**.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) – provides vital financial assistance to agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. See article below. Deadline is **December 11, 2020.** 

**2021 Acreage Report for fall seeded crops** – the deadline is **November 16**<sup>th</sup>, **2020** to report your crop.

**FYI** - We continue to have a full schedule of appointments. If you call the office, and we are unable to answer your call, please leave a message. The phone will ring several times before going to the answering machine. We will give you a call back at our next available time

In addition, our door is still locked, and we are meeting producers by appointment only. So please call to make an appointment. *All of us here thank you for your patience as we navigate through this busy season!* 

#### Best Regards,

Your Fremont County FSA Team

Have an awesome experience with our staff? Tell Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Purdue about your experience with FSA or NRCS!

https://www.usda.gov/tellsonny

#### Supervised Credit from FSA

Farm Service Agency (FSA) farm loans are considered supervised credit. Unlike loans from a commercial lender, FSA loans are intended to be temporary in nature. Our goal is to help you graduate to commercial credit, and our farm loan staff is available to help borrowers through training and credit counseling.

The FSA team will help borrowers identify their goals to ensure financial success. FSA staff will advise borrowers on developing strategies and a plan to meet your goals and graduate to commercial credit. FSA borrowers are responsible for the success of their farming operation, but FSA staff will help in an advisory role, providing the tools necessary to help you achieve your operational goals and manage your finances.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, contact your Fremont County USDA Service Center at 307-856-7524 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Acting CED, Brian Harrell at 307-856-7524 extension 2, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

### **FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections**

The 2020 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections will begin on Nov. 2, 2020, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 7, 2020.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs, conservation programs, incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities, emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm, may also be eligible to vote.

Eligible voters in local administrative area LAA2, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local USDA Service Center.

Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2021.

The candidate in this year's election is:

Stan Horton is a current board member up for re-election for another 3 year term and is nominated in LAA#2, Fremont County, to serve as COC member for a 3-year term beginning 01/01/2021. Stan resides in LAA#2, has 3 children that were born and raised in Fremont County, and has produced corn, alfalfa hay, and barley as well as having a cow-calf operation for the past 38 years. Stan is also an active member of the Big Horn Cooperative Board for Fremont County. Stan is willing to serve if elected.

More information on county committees, such as the new 2020 fact sheet, can be found on the FSA website at <u>fsa.usda.gov/elections</u> or at a local USDA Service Center.

## **Disaster Assistance for 2020 Livestock Forage Losses**

Producers in Fremont County are eligible to apply for 2020 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on [

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP *applications after* notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire.

You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than January 30, 2021, for 2020 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact the Fremont County USDA Service Center at 307-856-7524 or visit <u>fsa.usda.gov</u>.

#### **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2**

Signup for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) began on Sept. 21, 2020 and will continue through Dec. 11, 2020. CFAP 2 provides eligible producers with direct financial assistance due to market disruptions and associated costs because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

CFAP 2 is a separate program from the first round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, now referred to as CFAP 1. Farmers and ranchers who participated in CFAP 1 will not be automatically enrolled and must complete a new application for CFAP 2. Details on how to apply can be found on <a href="mailto:farmers.gov/cfap/apply">farmers.gov/cfap/apply</a>.

#### **CFAP 2 Eligible Commodities Finder**

Many more commodities are eligible for CFAP 2 than CFAP 1. Interested in finding the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 payment rates for the eligible commodities you grow or raise? Our new, easy-to-use <a href="CFAP 2 Eligible Commodities Finder">CFAP 2 Eligible Commodities Finder</a> makes finding payment rates specific to your operation simple. From yam to alpaca farmers – and everyone in between – the payment rate information you need is just a few clicks away. Try it today on your desktop, tablet, or mobile device.

#### **Call Center**

A call center is available for producers who would like additional one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process. Please call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance. The call center can provide service to non-English speaking customers. Customers will select 1 for English and 2 to speak with a Spanish speaking employee. For other languages, customers select 1 and indicate their language to the call center staff.

## Report Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Losses

NAP provides financial assistance to you for crops that aren't eligible for crop insurance to protect against lower yields or crops unable to be planted due to natural disasters including freeze, hail, excessive moisture, excessive wind or hurricanes, flood, excessive heat and qualifying drought (includes native grass for grazing), among others.

To receive payment, you had to purchase NAP coverage for 2020 crops and file a notice of loss the earlier of 15 days of the occurrence of the disaster or when losses become apparent or 15 days of the final harvest date.

You must notify FSA within 72 hours of when a loss becomes apparent.

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy, and industrial crops.

For more information on NAP, contact your Fremont County USDA Service Center or visit <a href="mailto:fsa.usda.gov/nap">fsa.usda.gov/nap</a>.

USDA Farm Service Agency Fremont County Office 508 North Broadway Ave Riverton, WY 82501 307-856-7524

#### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

FALL SEEDED CROPS ACREAGE REPORTING DEADLINE: November 16th, 2020

2021 NAP APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2020

COC ELECTION: December 7, 2020

CFAP-2 APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 11, 2020

LFP APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 30, 2021

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).